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22 FEB 1971

Admiral George W. Anderson, Jr.  
Chairman  
President's Foreign Intelligence  
Advisory Board  
Executive Office Building

Dear George:

Thank you for your letter of 17 February on various points of concern and interest to you. The NIE on Soviet policy in Asia, which will deal with the likelihood of a Sino-Soviet war, should be ready in three or four weeks. I agree it should be of more than usual interest and, as you can imagine, its drafting involves the meshing of a wide variety of opinions. I note your interest in the war-gaming aspects of papers of this kind and I agree with you that analysis of implications for U. S. policy is something to which we can properly address ourselves.

You also mentioned the Arab-Israeli and Indo-Pakistani confrontations and Abbot Smith is already involved in papers on both of them, which I will see get to you as soon as they are issued.

[redacted] which should be out in the first half of March and which focuses on various contingencies in the event of a final breakdown in negotiations. Abbot is also preparing a memorandum on the India-Pakistan situation, which should reach you very shortly.

There is, of course, a considerable difference in our providing our policy makers with analyses of world situations, which can have major impact upon their responsibilities, and assessing the effect of particular U. S. courses of action. The latter, of course, involves considerations well beyond usual intelligence responsibilities.

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We have on occasion made estimates of this kind but only in response to definitive direct requests from the White House or the Department of State.

Many thanks again for your continued interest in all these matters.

Sincerely,

*/s/ Richard Helms*  
Richard Helms

NIPE:BT:dm (22 Feb 71)

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